

THE TRANSCRIPT.

ST. ALBANS.

Friday, Dec. 2, 1864.

The next session of Congress will be probably as interesting as any that has been held since the organization of our Government. Questions of momentous interest will be proposed and discussed; and great interest must attach to the action of Congress during the next few months.

Congress will meet on Monday, the 5th day of December. Those who are interested in its action will do well to supply themselves with some papers which will give an account of its sayings and doings.

The Transcript, although greatly encouraged in its efforts to furnish a family paper, has room on its books for more subscribers. If their names and subscriptions are handed in before Jan. 1, 1865, the price will be \$1.75 per annum in advance. After that date the subscription price will be increased to \$2.00 in advance.

Sayings and Doings at Montpelier.

The General Assembly, after a session of six weeks, commencing October 11 and ending November 23, adjourned in season to enable its members to observe Thanksgiving Day at their last and usual place of abode.

Several matters of public interest were disposed of by the General Assembly, in the last days of the session to which we shall now briefly allude. Without such mention, the Transcript's record of the sayings and doings at Montpelier would be incomplete.

In the Senate a majority of the Judiciary Committee reported adversely to the House bill of Mr. Soule of Fairfax, and Senator Engleby submitted a written report against the bill authorizing the towns of Fairfax, Georgia, Fletcher, Cambridge and Waterville, to raise money to build a railroad to connect at East Georgia with the Vermont and Canada railroad. Senator Wood stated the facts on which the application was based and explained the cause of the request preferred by the above named towns. The Supreme Court have ordered a common highway to be built upon the line (substantially) contemplated by the bill. The people preferred a branch railroad—believing it more for their profit and convenience, and, on this ground of public interest, he earnestly supported the bill. He claimed that the constitutional objections had already been disposed of by the Legislature when it granted the Woodstock railroad company and when it empowered towns to incur debts for paying bounties to soldiers. Senator Engleby opposed the bill—urging constitutional objections—being mainly those urged last year against the Woodstock Railroad Company by the distinguished Senator. Senator Nichols and Smith, favored the bill—believing a railroad would be advantageous to those towns praying for legislative aid. The bill finally passed 14 to 9.

Senator Rublee reported against House bill, granting State aid to families of substitutes and third reading was refused.

The proposition to regulate mileage of members and to pay them one hundred dollars each per annum, instead of their per diem pay was discussed and dismissed. Bills relating to closing affairs and redeeming bills of Franklin County Bank; To pay newspapers \$20.00 instead of \$15.00 for publishing public laws were passed. After being thus liberal to newspapers, giving them about one half of the amount they ought to receive, the Legislature increased the salaries of Supreme Court judges to twenty one hundred dollars. Mr. Dorr for Committee on Ways and Means, introduced a substitute for House bill assuming the losses incurred by the three banks at St. Albans. This substitute bill appoints three commissioners: Paul Dillingham of Waterbury, Silas M. Waite of Brattleboro' and Merritt Clark of Poultony, to ascertain the losses of said banks, &c. Substitute adopted, and bill was favored by Messrs. Dorr and Hyde, and opposed by Messrs. Nicholson, Hebard and Kimball and lost, yeas 18, nays 44.

A resolution of thanks to the 2d Vermont brigade, and to Brig. Gen. L. A. Grant was passed.

The bill equalizing Town bounties and providing for their ultimate payment by the State, after considerable discussion pro and con, in which Messrs. Barlow of St. Albans, Wilson of Bakersfield, Robinson of Highgate, and several others participated, passed the House—yeas 147, nays 36. Bills providing for a tax of 120 cents on the dollar and authorizing the Treasurer to borrow a sum not exceeding \$500,000, and appropriating \$500,000 for military expenses, and authorizing the issuing of bonds for that amount were also passed.

The Senate bill requiring a general index to their records of deeds was passed.

The bill to pay Thomas E. Powers was debated and third reading refused. Joint resolution in regard to the death of the late Governor Fairbanks, and manifesting respect for his memory and sympathy for his family was introduced, debated, and passed. Senators Engleby and Nichols paid high eulogiums to the deceased in the Senate, and Mr. Dean, of Cavendish, spoke in terms of eulogy in the House.

In the Joint Assembly held for the purpose of electing one Major General and three Brigadier Generals under the Militia Law just enacted, Col. William Y. W. Ripley, of Rutland, was elected Major General, and Major John L. Barlow, of Shelburne, for the third district, Col. Thomas O. Seaver, of Pomfret, for the first district, and Col. W. W. Grant, of Barton, for the second district, were elected Brigadier Generals.

A bill authorizing the Governor to pay expenses incurred for the defence of the Frontier was passed. The entire amount for the State expended in paying Town bounties was reported at three millions, eight hundred and seventy six thousand one hundred and ninety one dollars and thirty three cents. This report will be printed hereafter in the House Journal.

A bill introduced by Mr. Wilson of Bakersfield, to facilitate proceedings under the treaty between the United States and Great Britain, respecting the apprehension and surrender of certain offenders was passed. The House and Senate disagreed on the bill equalizing town bounties. After customary thanks to the officers of the House and Senate, and the return of thanks by the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House, the Legislature adjourned sine die.

It is but proper to remark that in the last General Assembly, Franklin and Grand Isle Counties were represented by members of unusual weight and capacity. On committees and in debate, several members from these counties were deservedly prominent and influential. Messrs. Wood and Smith in the Senate, and Messrs. Wheeler of South Hero, Wilson of Bakersfield, Soule of Fairfax, Robinson of Highgate, Barlow of St. Albans, and Green of Montgomery, took prominent part in the important debates of the session. Mr. Rublee on the Finance Committee, and his colleagues, Messrs. Clark and Chapman made a highly creditable report on the condition of the State Finances of the State of which one thousand copies were printed in pamphlet form for the use of the General Assembly. This report we propose to publish in the columns of the Transcript. Senator Smith served as Chairman of the Committee on Education and Senator Wood was on the Committee on Military Affairs.

In the House, Mr. Wilson of Bakersfield, was Chairman of the Committee on Rules, and also on the Judiciary Committee. Mr. Soule, of Fairfax, served on the Committee on Ways and Means. Mr. Barlow, of St. Albans, was Chairman of the Committee on Roads; Mr. Wheeler, of South Hero, served as Chairman of the Committee on Education; Messrs. Green of Montgomery, Soule of Fairfax, Pike of Isle La Motte and McGowan of Grand Isle, served on the Committee to make up the Grand List. Messrs. Dorman, of Swanton, and Town of North Hero, served on the General Committee; Messrs. Colcord of Franklin, and Kinsley of Alburgh, served on the Distributing Committee; Messrs. Robinson of Highgate, and McGowan of Grand Isle, served on the Committee on Mileage and Debentures—each and all discharging their respective duties with ability and fidelity.

It is unnecessary to speak of the laws of the last session of the General Assembly, inasmuch as they will shortly be published in the newspapers and in pamphlet form, for the benefit of all. To one of them we may properly refer as of some personal interest to publishers of newspapers—We mean the one granting \$5.00 additional for the printing of the public laws of the session in the newspapers. Mr. Wilson of Bakersfield, proposed the payment of \$30.00 as compensation, but some of the members more noted for wisdom and virtue, than for just liberality, thought \$20.00 was enough! To some of our readers it may be a matter of interest to know that those sections of the Marriage Law requiring the publication of intention of marriage, are repealed, except in their application to minors, paupers, insane persons and idiots. We understand that the session was not remarkable for developing the usual amount of gaiety in Montpelier, although the number of strangers was large, but one party was given, and that at the hospitable mansion of Col. E. P. Jewett, for many years noted for its elegant hospitality and abundant good cheer.

A theatre was in the full tide of experiment during the greater part of the session, and concerts of more or less goodness were interspersed with theatrical performances.

The legislature passed ninety public acts and nearly sixty private acts for incorporating companies and other purposes. The act of the most importance was the one passed to organize, arm and uniform twelve regiments of militia. Six thousand men must be in service according to the act, while the force may be increased to twice that number.

The Agricultural College act of 1863, was repealed and a separate Farmers' College bill was passed. By this bill, the college is to be located when \$100,000 are subscribed. The bills to pay veterans and invalid soldiers State pay or bounty, failed to become laws.

A law was passed, empowering the Governor to order the imprisonment of persons charged with violating the "act to prevent raids," in the State Prison at Windsor pending proceedings upon such charge. This will relieve the fears of many in this County who had fears of attempts to rescue the "St. Albans Raiders" so-called, in case they should be surrendered by the Canadian authorities, and sent for trial at St. Albans, where the murder, shooting with intent to kill, and bank robberies, &c., were committed.

The venue of the trial may, also, by a recent act, be changed to another County than the one where the raid was committed, by any Judge of the Supreme Court, upon application of the respondent or State's Attorney of the County where the offence was committed. In some cases this may be desirable, but not probable in the "St. Albans Raiders" case.

The following measures of the session are of the most general interest and importance. Acts authorizing Selectmen to build school-houses when districts neglect to build; providing to pay teacher's board and to provide fuel for schools by tax on Grand List; to count public holidays as Sunday in reckoning time for serving legal papers, &c.; to increase salary of judges of the Supreme Court to \$2,100 from \$1,800; to appropriate \$1,300, for the Gettysburg Cemetery; appropriating \$500,000 for military purposes, and levying a tax of 125 cents on the dollar of the Grand List for the support of the State Government.

The St. Albans Messenger trumpets to the world that it has received a new subscriber, in the person of Bennett H. Young, the bank robber who led the gang of thieves and murderers on their raid into St. Albans, October 19th. The Messenger is so much delighted with the fact and the money the young thief sent, that it prints the letter and pockets the insults and the money the letter contained. Our co-temporary is perhaps not wise in pocketing either the insult or money. With regard to the impudent letter published by the Messenger, it ought never to have been noticed at all, and as regards the money, it ought to have been sent back at once to the robber, with an intimation that money obtained by blood and robbery can never be received by an honorable printer, and that a partaker is always as bad as the thief.

We can not give any information respecting the running time of the Ogdensburg railroad, nor how long passengers are obliged to wait at Routes' Point. That company is guilty of keeping the public in ignorance of their movements and by adhering to a false economy in the matter of advertising, they undoubtedly save a few pennies and lose as many dollars. All we can say to our inquiring friend is, that we feel sure the road is in running order and operating "according to Hoyle." When we are better advised, we may be able to be more explicit.

The rebels have contrived torpedoes that resemble lumps of coal. The "Greyhound" that was burned on James River, was probably caused by such torpedoes. Gen. Butler and staff lost ten horses by this burning. Generals Butler and Shenck and Admiral Porter were on board, but they were taken off by the Pioneer. The Greyhound was burned to the water's edge.

The Appletons, of New York, have in press a volume of poems, by Miss A. M. Hemenway, of Ludlow, Vt., printed on fine tinted paper, entitled "Rosa Mystica," and containing 300 pages. The late Park Benjamin recommended this work for publication, and characterizes it "as a tender and elevated poem, redolent of beauty and devotion." This work will be issued in season for the Christmas holidays.

Attorney General Bates' resignation is confirmed, and the newspapers are filled with speculations about his probable successor.

The splendid steamboat, Francis Skiddy, was sunk about six miles below Albany, Nov. 25, but none of her passengers were injured.

Soldiers Fair at Springfield.

The Young Men's Christian Commission of Springfield, Mass., propose to hold a fair for the benefit of sick and wounded soldiers, on the 19th, 20th, 21st and 22d days of Dec., 1864. Mr. G. F. Nutting, on behalf of this Commission, has visited St. Albans and vicinity with the view of bringing this matter to the attention of our benevolent people, and has met with a cordial reception. It will be remembered that Springfield has received and cared for at the Soldiers' Rest in that city nine thousand two hundred and forty three men, mostly sick and wounded—returning from the hospitals at the Front to those of Vermont and New Hampshire. Five thousand of these were from Vermont. Immediate donations to this Fair, either of money or produce or other articles, will be acceptable. If the latter, they can be transmitted by railroad without expense—addressed to the Soldiers' Fair, Springfield, Mass.

We trust this Fair will be cordially and promptly encouraged by liberal donations, especially when it is considered how much has been already done for our own soldiers there, and how much will be done hereafter for them by the benevolent citizens of Springfield.

In our columns will be found advertisements of Harper's Magazine and Harper's Weekly newspaper, both of which are well edited, well printed, full of good reading matter, amusing and instructive, and decidedly worthy of public patronage.

The following is the total vote of Vermont, by counties, at the last November election:

	Lincoln	McClahan
Addison	3567	344
Bennington	2333	1021
Caledonia	2731	1115
Chittenden	3227	623
Essex	613	385
Franklin	2689	1166
Grand Isle	370	168
Lamoille	1760	531
Orange	3365	1701
Orleans	2703	626
Rutland	4739	1247
Washington	3633	1552
Windham	4153	1242
Windsor	6446	1320
Total	42,419	13,321

THE CHIROGRAPHY OF GRANT AND LEE.

A Richmond correspondent of the Savannah Republican, referring to the late correspondence between Gen. Grant and Lee, in reference to the relief of our prisoners at the South, says:

The correspondence between General Lee and General Grant is now before me, and I have been much struck by the handwriting of these two ablest generals the war has brought forward on either side. General Lee's handwriting is bold and rather stiff, his letters being large, round, and very distinct. He bears heavily upon the pen—probably a goose quill—and abbreviates a labor to him. The following is an exact transcript of the first sentence in his letter to General Grant:

"General: I have read your letter of the 15th inst. accompanying copies of letters from Judge Ould Comdr of Exchange of Prisoners on the part of the Confederate States & the Honble E. M. Stanton Secy of War Lt Col Muford Asst. Comdr of Ex. of the U. States."

He does not, as you perceive, punctuate closely; and nowhere in his letter does he write out the word "and," but invariably uses the abbreviation "&." And yet he pauses long enough to dot all his "i's" and cross all his "t's." All his letters are drawn nearly straight up and down the paper; in other words, they are like himself, round, full, bold, and upright, inclining neither to the right nor the left, and standing firmly on their base, as they are disdained all assistance. As they are so clear and precise, so round, and weighty, and distinct, that each letter reminds one of a solid cannon ball, and each word of a cluster of grape-shot.

General Grant's handwriting, on the contrary, though not so bold and distinct, nor the letters so large and round and erect, is nevertheless very legible and very striking. It is full of energy and action, and his letters all incline to the right, and follow one after another with a little space between them, as if they represented an equal number of his brigades on a rapid march around Lee's right. Among chirographers his hand would be called a running hand. The words occupy much space from left to right, and still they are very clear and legible. He pays more attention to punctuation than General Lee, abbreviates less, and is equally careful of his "i's" and "t's." It may be the work of imagination, yet in reading his letter I cannot but picture the writer as a restless, nervous, energetic man, full of fire and action, always in motion, and always in a hurry.

Capt. Gideon Lathrop, formerly of Burlington, Vt., and well known in the valley of Lake Champlain, is now residing at Stockport, N. Y.

Ex-Governor Hammond, of South Carolina, the author of the speech, that working men were "the mudsills of society," has recently deceased. He stood aloof from the secession movement.

The rebel pirate Florida is at the bottom of Hampton Roads, and the prisoners taken from her are in Fort Warren, near Boston.

Examination before Judge Counsel of the St. Albans Raiders.

We publish additional testimony added in the examination of the robbers of the St. Albans Banks which we have been able to glean from carefully prepared reports in the Montreal newspapers. We are glad to learn as we do through C. N. Bishop, Esq., that a full report of the testimony and arguments of counsel is being prepared for publication in pamphlet form by the able reporter of the Montreal Herald, and that it will appear from the press when the case is closed.

We supply the testimony of Messrs. Saxe and Cross and add the voluntary statements of several of the robbers themselves. The latter indicates the animus of the robbers and the defence they are trying to establish.

James Saxe.—I think I saw about 15 armed mounted men in St. Albans on the afternoon of the 19th October. My impression was they were acting in concert. (Witness now looked at the prosecutors, and said Hutchinson was the only one of the party he recognized.) As to the difference in his appearance, I notice an absence of whiskers, and that he now wears spectacles, which he then did not. Saw him for the first time that afternoon.—When Hutchinson entered the Franklin county Bank, he appeared to be unarmed. In answer to my question, he answered the price of gold a month hence will depend very much upon the success of your (the Federal) armies. He was in civilian's dress, as were also the others of the band who left the town in a northerly direction. They went off as one body.

Cross-examined.—I saw Hutchinson in the Montreal Jail. Passing among the prisoners, I took a general look at them, but could not see him. It was after this I asked the Jailor to point him out. The next time I saw Hutchinson, after seeing him in the Bank at St. Albans, was in the Montreal Police Court. I am not aware of having seen him amongst the armed men.—Did not observe him commit any violence. Heard him in St. Albans, but did not see him.

Leonard L. Cross, St. Albans, examined.—I saw a band of armed mounted men in St. Albans the day of the raid, and now identify Young, Bruce, Spurr, Lackey and Collins, as of the party. It appeared to be acting in concert, the members riding off together. As I stepped out of my photographic saloon, and saw the men riding, I asked—"what are you celebrating here?" (Laughter.) Young answered—"I'll tell you know," and fired his revolver at me. He then said—"Come out every one of you into the street." Young then ordered Lackey to throw Green fire into Mr. Atwood's building, upon which Lackey threw something out of a glass bottle at the sign of the building, over my head. Young now ordered those standing near to move up the street as there was too much of a crowd gathering. The parties commenced to move, when Young fired again, towards the sign of my saloon. I think at me, as the bullet passed near my head. This was the same party that committed several acts of violence in the town. They were strangers, with exception of Young, whom I had seen there before.

Cross-examined.—I went to Stanbridge after this affair, where I helped to arrest two of the prisoners. I saw the prisoners handcuffed. I was armed when at Stanbridge, having a revolver. Don't remember having threatened them, or tried at any time to shoot any of the prisoners. I had my pistol in my hand when I went into the room in which were the prisoners. I might have said that if the man who shot at me would give me the same chance he had I would shoot him. I saw in St. Albans only one man snap a rifle at the party, and this after they had ridden up the street. His name is Gilson.

By the permission of the Court, on the application of the counsel for the prosecution, the witness Saxe was allowed to correct the statement in his deposition, that he had asked the Jailor to point out the man calling himself Hutchinson. He said—I asked the Jailor if he would call Mr. Hutchinson, who was then out of sight, as I wished to see him. I did so for the benefit of Mr. Boardley, who had not seen him since he had become a prisoner.

STATEMENT OF C. W. SWAGER.

I am a Kentuckian and a Confederate soldier, owing no allegiance to any government but the Confederate States of America. And as a soldier I feel it my duty to harass and annoy the army and navy of the United States, as they invade and destroy its shipping, capture its towns and cities and otherwise damage, if possible, a government which seeks our destruction. Any act I might have committed at St. Albans, Vermont, I did in the capacity of a Confederate soldier, acting under orders of Lieut. B. H. Young, a commissioned officer in the Confederate army. I have violated no law of Canada or Great Britain.

STATEMENT OF JOSEPH M'GOWAN.

I am no criminal, nor are my comrades. The Yankees know this, and if we had been captured within their boundaries, either before or after the capture of St. Albans, we would have been tried not by civil law, but by a military commission or drum-head court martial. But they found us in neutral territory, and now seek by Yankee ingenuity and the boasted influence of their government to get us into their power. I am a native of Ireland, and a naturalized citizen of the Confederate States of America, and of the State of Texas, and owe no allegiance to the United States, with which my country is at war. I am also a soldier of the C. S. army, and of the 1st Confederate cavalry battalion. I was under Gen. Morgan in his expedition in Kentucky last summer, was wounded there and remained in the State some weeks. When I recovered from

the effects of my wound, I reported to Lieutenant Young for duty. Whatever I may have done in the capacity of a soldier, I feel I did no more than my duty as a soldier in obeying the orders of my commanding officer, Lieut. Young, a commissioned officer of the C. S. army. I have violated no laws of Great Britain or Canada.

STATEMENT OF C. M. WALLACE.

I am a native of Kentucky, but at the inception of the war now pending between the United States and the Confederate States, I was living in the state of Texas, one of the Confederate States of America.

Whatever I may have done at St. Albans, I did as a Confederate soldier, and in obedience to the order, and under the instructions of Lieut. B. H. Young, a commissioned officer of the Confederate States of America, my commander at that time.

I have not violated any law of Canada or Great Britain.

STATEMENT OF A. C. BRUCE.

I am a native of Kentucky and a Confederate States soldier. My term has not expired. I was made prisoner in June last by Federal troops, and made my escape from a car whilst being carried as such to Yankee prison at Rock Island. I joined Lieut. Young at Chicago last August. I have violated no laws of Canada or Great Britain. Whatever I may have done in the so-called United States has been an act of war, as my government, the Confederate States, are at war with the Yankees, and I owe allegiance to it and am sworn to do my duty as a soldier. I am told that I am accused of having shot Morrison at St. Albans. If I had shot him it was my duty to do so. I am taken for a comrade who did do it, who is not here. I do not say this to secure myself, but as it is the truth. I justify the act as an act of war, though Morrison was not aimed at, but the armed man who skulked behind him. I have lost kindred in this war—a cousin brutally murdered in Camp Douglas, whilst unarmed and doing nothing to provoke it. Yankee plundering and cruel atrocities without parallel, provoked the raid on St. Albans as a retaliation.

GENE'S STATEMENT.

I was born and reared in the State of Kentucky. I am a Confederate soldier. My term of service is not yet expired. I owe no allegiance to the United States Government. Whatever I may have done in St. Albans in the month of October last, was done in military duty, as a Confederate soldier, acting under orders of Lieut. Young, C. S. A.

N. SPURR'S STATEMENT.

I am a native of Kentucky. An enlisted soldier of the Confederate army, and my time has not yet expired. I owe no allegiance to the so-called United States, but to the Confederate States of America. I was held as a prisoner of war in a Yankee Bastille, and by bribing a "Yankee patriot" and by daring, escaped. Afterwards was engaged at different times with soldiers of the afore-mentioned army doing duty in the Yankee States. Last summer at Chicago, I placed myself under the command of Lieut. Young. I was in the States when the raid on St. Albans, Vt., was made by Lieut. Young and others. What I may have done at St. Albans I did as a soldier of the Confederate States army and in accordance with orders from Lieut. Young of said army. In doing this I have violated no law of Canada or Great Britain. I have lost kindred and have had kindred killed.

B. E. LACKY'S STATEMENT.

With the permission of your Honor I have only to say that I am a native of the Confederate States to which Government I now owe allegiance. I have been thrown upon this Government not designedly but by the fortunes of war. I have violated no law of this country or of Great Britain, unless it be unlawful for a Confederate soldier, driven by the hard fate of war, to ask the protection of the British flag. I am a soldier of the Confederate States army, having been recognized as such by the so-called United States Government, from the fact of having been held as prisoners of war—my command now being held as prisoners of war at Camp Douglas, Ill., from which place I made my escape through the mercenary characters of those gallant Yankees—a people who make war for plunder and are happy when they make war on women and children. I have, during the captivity of my command, been detailed for special service inside the enemy's lines, under the command of Lieut. Bennett H. Young. I owe no allegiance to the "quasi" government, the United States. Whatever I may have done, it has been done under the authority of my Government, and by the order of its commissioned officers, prompted by a sense of duty, which I owed to my country, my Government, and my fallen comrades.

JAN. A. DOTY'S STATEMENT.

I am a Confederate soldier. What I may have done at St. Albans was by order of Lieut. Young, an officer in the army of the Confederate States.

The case will be resumed on Tuesday, the 13th December, at the Court House in Montreal, when the accused will proceed with their defence. It is understood that the Raiders recently made an application to the Canadian Government to despatch a messenger to Richmond to obtain evidence said to be material for the defence, which application that Government rejected. The Canadian Government considers them as undergoing an examination upon charges which if proved, *prima facie* would render them liable to be surrendered under the provisions of the Ashburton Treaty. As the proceeding is preliminary and not involving a defence to the charges set up in the complaints, the Government de-

nies the application, although other reasons might have existed. We will wait the further action of the Canadian authorities with patience, merely remarking that we discover nothing as yet which would justify the suspicion that the Provincial authorities are not acting in good faith towards our Government in the present proceedings.

LATE WAR NEWS.

The minimum standard of height for the recruits for the volunteer service has been fixed by the Secretary of War at five feet instead of five feet three inches as heretofore established.

Ex-General Roger A. Pryor, who was recently captured, admits that Gen. Sherman had captured Macon and Milledgeville and from the progress he was making he had probably captured Augusta and would encounter no serious difficulty in marching to the seaboard. It is understood that with Augusta in his possession the South west would be cut off from Richmond and Lee could send no troops to reinforce Savannah.

The South regent Gen. Sherman with more alarm than any other officer in the United States service. The newspaper press will not heretofore be so communicative as heretofore regarding Sherman's movements. The report that Gen. Sherman had liberated a number of Federal prisoners needs confirmation.

New Creek, on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, was captured and burned by the rebel raiders under Gen. Payne Nov. 28th, but the regular trains on the road were not detained.

Evidence of a plot to fire some of the Sound steamers has been discovered. One of the steamers was seized at her dock, and a torpedo was found a short time since on board the New London and a quantity of "phosphorous bottles."

Gen. Sherman is accompanied in his Georgia campaign by an excellent guide—a native of Georgia and a wealthy planter and slaveholder, formerly living near Macon.

NEW YORK, Nov. 30.

Gen. Burnside has sailed from Fortress Monroe with 20,000 men to meet Gen. Sherman.

A letter from Fortress Monroe says it has been known to Gen. Grant that A. P. Hill's entire rebel corps has been detached from Lee's army and sent south, probably to meet Sherman. Its place has been taken by two divisions of Early's army.

It is rumored that Gen. William F. Smith is about to be assigned to an important command in the South West.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30.

The organization of an army corps of not less than 20,000 infantry under the command of Maj. Gen. Hays, excites much interest. His headquarters has been established in this city. Veterans soldiers not now in the service desirous of entering this new organization should, until further notice, report in person to the Adjutant-General at the White House or the Adjutant-General at the War Department.

No person should apply except such as have seen 2 years' service and been honorably discharged and physically qualified.

Veteran officers who desire to serve in this first corps, should make application in writing to the Adjutant-General, giving a history of their services and such military recommendations from their former commands as they can produce.

NEW YORK, Nov. 29.

An attempt was made last night to fire the city of New York. Eight hotels were set on fire, viz: the Metropolitan, Lafayette, St. James, Leveys, Belmont, Gramercy Park, Levee, many Hall and Barnum's Museum. In every instance the presence of the beds of Phosphorus was discovered at the beds of the hotels, showing a combination of incendiaries with a manifest intention of creating a general conflagration.

The following order was issued by Gen. Dix on Saturday:

A nefarious attempt was made last night to fire the principal hotels of this city. If this attempt had succeeded it would have resulted in a frightful sacrifice of property and life. The evidence of an extensive conspiracy and other facts disclosed to-day show it to have been the work of rebel spies and agents. All such persons engaged in secrets acts of hostility here can only be regarded as subjects to martial law and to the penalty of death. If they are detected they will be immediately brought before a court martial or military commission, and if convicted, they will be executed without the delay of a single day.

The attempted incendiary fires have attracted much attention. It is known several hotels escaped by the warning given on Friday night as a large number of applications from suspected persons for lodgings were rejected. In every instance, the applicants carried black valises. Detectives are on the track of the conspirators and will probably arrest them.

THE NEW FRACTIONAL CURRENCY. The plates of the new fifty-cent fractional currency are nearly ready for printing. The notes will be of the same with those now in circulation but with the two as long. The new five-cent notes will be of the same size as the old ones, while the tens and twenty-dollar notes will be of graduated length between the highest and lowest denomination. It is probable that a three-cent note will be issued for the greater facility of making change.—Furness's War Paper.